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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8509  
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RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY  
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RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY  
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RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY  
RHMFIUU/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY  
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 8890  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 2300  
RUEHB/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 4952  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1389  
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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - BUSH FOREIGN POLICY - TOKYO

LEAD STORIES: Tuesday morning's Asahi front-paged remarks reportedly made by President Bush to Chinese President Hu in Hanoi Sunday, quoting Bush as telling Hu that the end of the Korean War can be officially declared if North Korea gives up its nuclear programs.

[¶1. "Bush Takes Flexible Line After Midterm Elections"](#)  
Takashi Sadahiro, correspondent of the top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri, in a report from Bogor, Indonesia, wrote (11/21): "President Bush returned home after visiting Indonesia Monday for talks with President Yudhoyono and completing a tour of three Southeast Asian nations. Considerable international attention had been focused on the president's first foreign tour after the Republican defeat in the midterm elections, particularly how Washington would deal with the North Korean nuclear issue. After his series of meetings with foreign leaders on the sidelines of the APEC forum and elsewhere, it became clear that President Bush has shifted from a demanding and hard-line policy to an approach of cooperation and flexibility."

SCHIEFFER